



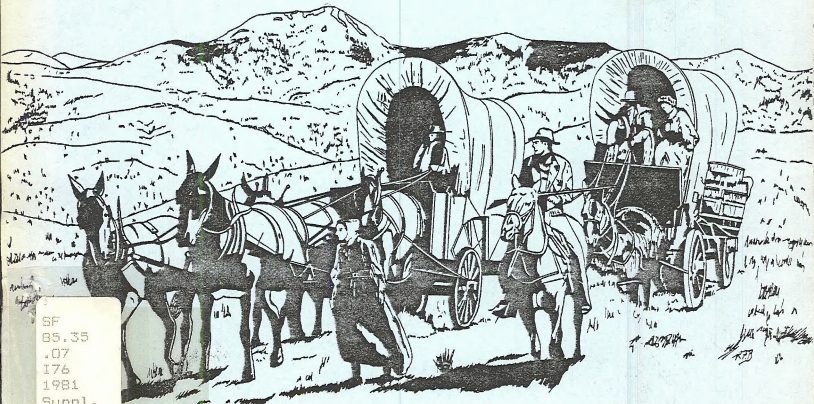
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

DRAFT

Oregon State Office



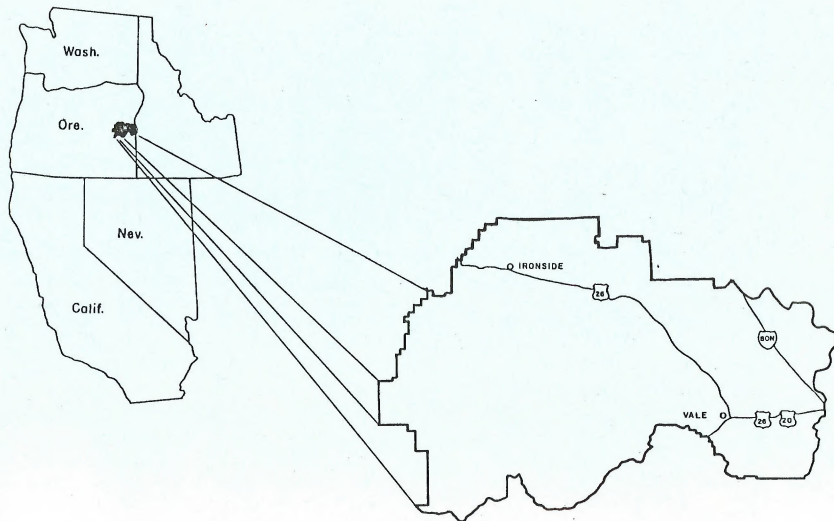
**Ironside Rangeland
Program Summary**
Record of Decision
Vale District



SF
85.35
.07
176
1981
Suppl.

VICINITY MAP
IRONSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT AREA

VALE DISTRICT





United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. Box 2965 (729 N.E. Oregon Street)
Portland, Oregon 97208

BLM Library
D-553A, Building 50
Denver Federal Center
P. O. Box 25047
Denver, CO 80225-0047

March 13, 1981

IN REPLY REFER TO:
4160 (932)

SF
85.35
.07
I-6
1981
Suppl.

The enclosed Draft Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) and Record of Decision is for your review and comment.

Our Oregon policy stresses public participation in the decision making process. This draft RPS has been prepared with this policy in mind and both summarizes the rangeland management program and outlines the decisions developed for the Ironside Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Area. The program and related decisions are the result of land use planning completed in 1979 and the analysis of several alternative programs contained in the Ironside EIS published September 30, 1980. Although the program is primarily a blend of the "Proposed Action" and the "Limit Downward Adjustment" alternatives described in the Ironside EIS, it also contains modifications based on public comment, new data, and recently revised grazing policies.

Please review this summary and, if appropriate, give us your comments. When comments are related to a specific area, please include the number(s) or name(s) of the allotment(s) involved.

Written comments concerning allotments in the Baker District should be sent to: District Manager, P.O. Box 987, Baker, Oregon 97814. Comments concerning areas within the Vale District should be sent to: District Manager, P.O. Box 700, Vale, Oregon 97918.

Two public meetings, to receive comments, have been scheduled. Comments related to the program for the Baker District may be presented on March 25, 1981 at 7:30 pm in Baker at the School District 5-J Administration Building.

A similar public meeting for the Vale District portion of the rangeland program will be held March 26, 1981, at 7:30 pm in the W-10 Weese Building, Treasure Valley Community College, Ontario, Oregon.

Comments may be submitted until April 24, 1981. All comments will be considered in preparation of the Final Rangeland Program Summary and Record of Decision for the Ironside Area, which will be published in early June. Individual decisions, along with an update of the RPS, will be issued this fall following completion of consultation with individual livestock permittees.

Bureau of Land Management
Library
Bldg. 50, Denver Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225

As an economy measure only a limited number of maps have been printed.
Please retain these maps for use with the Final Rangeland Program Summary.

Thank you for your past cooperation and we look forward to any further input
you may have that will assist us in managing your public lands.

Sincerely yours,

Fearl M. Parker

Fearl Parker
District Manager
Vale District

Gordon R. Staker

Gordon Staker
District Manager
Baker District

RANGELAND PROGRAM SUMMARY (RPS)

Record of Decision

Ironside EIS Area
Vale District

ABSTRACT

This draft document constitutes the public record of decision and summarizes the major range management actions to be taken on approximately 619,000 acres of public land in the Vale District, Oregon. The actions are designed to meet the general objectives identified in the proposed action described in the Ironside Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). They also incorporate the findings of that document and the concerns expressed by the public and other government agencies. With some modifications, the proposed action in the Ironside EIS is the selected Range Management Program.

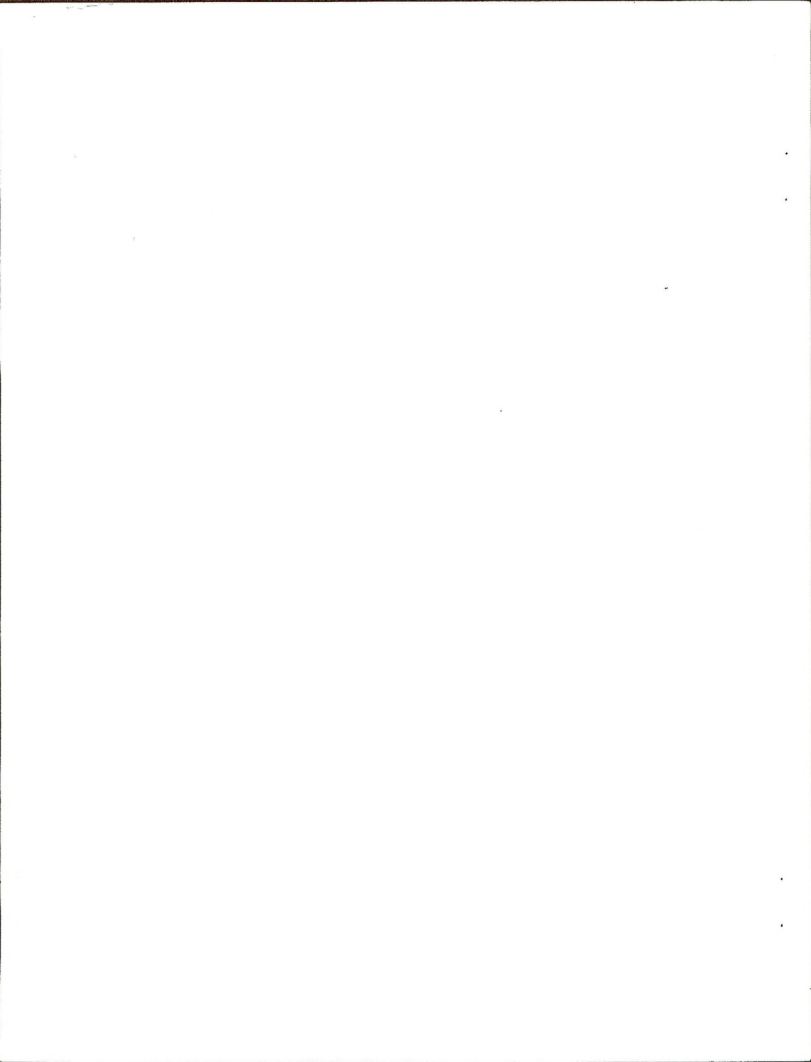
The initial authorized annual livestock grazing use will be 91,309 animal unit months (AUMs). This level of use represents a 13 percent downward adjustment from the 1977 authorized use of 104,987 AUMs and less than a 1 percent downward adjustment from the 1978 authorized use of 91,493 AUMs. This allocation reserves approximately 70 percent of the total annual vegetation production for watershed protection, wildlife habitat, and other non-livestock uses. The initial allocation of forage to livestock will increase use on 9 allotments and decrease use on 46 allotments. Livestock grazing use will be unchanged on the remaining 27 allotments. *current year grant*

Individual allotment decisions implementing the proposed rangeland management will be issued in the fall of 1981. These decisions will include individual allotment adjustments which will be effective March 1, 1982 and will be phased in over a period of five years or less. *yearly*

Twenty-nine allotments covering 566,590 acres are scheduled for intensive management which consists of initiating grazing systems and constructing range improvements. Fifty-three allotments covering 46,412 acres are scheduled for nonintensive management consisting primarily of custodial livestock management. No livestock grazing will be authorized on 5,998 acres.

The following rangeland improvements are planned: 38,411 acres of vegetation manipulation, 128 miles of fence, 44 miles of pipelines, 48 spring developments, 61 reservoirs, and 2 wells. Environmental assessments will be prepared prior to construction of range improvements or significant modifications of the range management program.

Resource monitoring studies and evaluations will be conducted following implementation of grazing systems and range improvements to determine if objectives are being met. A report of the progress made in implementing this program and improving resource condition will be prepared periodically and published in future Rangeland Program Summary updates.



INTRODUCTION

Purpose

This Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) briefly describes the Bureau of Land Management's program relating to range management in the Vale District's portion of the Ironside Grazing Management Environmental Impact Statement (Ironside EIS) area in eastern Oregon. It also constitutes the public record of decision on grazing management in that portion of the EIS area. This program consists of four parts:

- . 1) the allocation of vegetation for livestock, wildlife and nonconsumptive uses,
- 2) the grazing systems to be implemented,
- 3) the range improvements to be constructed,
- 4) the monitoring and evaluation program to be conducted.

The RPS also describes how the initial and subsequent grazing decisions needed to implement the program will be made.

The Ironside EIS area encompasses public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management in both Baker County and the northern portion of Malheur County. Range management decisions concerning the Baker County portion of the EIS area will be covered in a separate RPS prepared by the Baker District.

The Ironside EIS was prepared in compliance with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) - Natural Resources Defense Council agreement dated April 11, 1975. The EIS, completed in September, 1980, analyzed the proposed action and five alternatives. It included resource data primarily gathered prior to 1979.

Please refer to the previously provided Ironside EIS for a more detailed description of the proposed action (which has been adopted with certain modifications) the five alternatives, and definition of terms.

Background

The Vale District portion of the Ironside EIS area includes 619,000 acres of public land in that portion of Malheur County lying north of U.S. Highway 20. The grazing allotments in this area also contain 324,880 acres of lands in other ownership.

The area is divided into 82 allotments used by 105 livestock permittees. Range improvement projects completed prior to 1980 include 850 miles of fence, 100,000 acres of land treatments, 280 reservoirs, 240 springs, 14 wells, 100 miles of pipeline, and 130 cattleguards.

In 1977, the livestock operators were authorized 104,987 AUMs. Cattle accounted for nearly 100 percent of these AUMs (400 AUMs were licensed to sheep in one allotment). In 1978, some livestock permittees entered into an agreement to reduce the amount of use by 13,903 AUMs until such time as the Ironside EIS and Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) were completed. Because of

this agreement, interim grazing systems and the adjusted stocking rates have been in effect for the past 3 grazing seasons. Due to the language in the agreements, any administrative action to adjust livestock allocations will be made from the active preference during 1977.

Livestock adjustments, implementation of grazing systems and construction of range improvement projects have resulted in the following resource condition and trend. Changes which may have occurred since 1977 are not reflected in the ecosite condition and trend data:

Ecosite Condition in 1977

	<u>Climax</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>Middle</u>	<u>Early</u>	<u>Status Not Determined</u> 1/
Acres:	7,811	93,165	174,734	185,117	112,327
Percent:	2	20	38	40	--

Trend of Ecosite Condition in 1977

	<u>Upward</u>	<u>Static</u>	<u>Downward</u>	<u>Status Not Determined</u>
Acres:	32,258	341,012	87,557	159,741
Percent:	7	74	19	--

1/ Includes 61,438 acres of seedlings and 50,889 acres of rock and other land which could not be classified.

Deer and antelope are the primary big game species, with elk occurring in minor numbers. Chukar partridge and a variety of other upland game birds inhabit the area along with some waterfowl, fur bearers, and numerous non-game species.

Thirteen streams in the area provide about 34 miles of cold water fish habitat. Species are primarily rainbow and redband trout. Fishing and hunting are the most significant recreational activities. There are a total of 103 miles of stream, and numerous springs and reservoirs that produce 488 acres of riparian habitat.

One wild horse herd exists in the Hog Creek area of Allotment #4 (203). In 1975 a management decision specified numbers of wild horses to range from 30 to 50 head. Due to budgetary constraints which prevented gathering the excess animals, they have increased to about 130 head.

THE PROGRAM

The Decision

The program to be implemented following publication of the final Rangeland Program Summary and Record of Decision consists of the following major actions:

- 1) The initial allocation of livestock forage as follows:

Livestock	91,309 AUMs
Wildlife	5,170 AUMs
Wild Horses	600 AUMs
Nonconsumptive	5,274 AUMs

*Nonconsumptive —
Total forage production*

*Estimated by the BLM
on 4/11/82*

(Includes forage in study plots, administrative sites, recreation sites, and areas too far from water or on steep slopes.)

- 2) The implementation of grazing systems on 29 intensive management allotments.
- 3) The completion of range improvements at an approximate cost of \$1,368,000 on the intensive management allotments.
- 4) The continuation of non-intensive management on 53 allotments.
- 5) The monitoring and evaluation of resource uses and changes in condition caused by implementation of this decision.

Consideration of N.E.P.A. Policy Goals

Only the Proposed Action and the Limit Downward Adjustments alternative, of those addressed in the Ironside EIS, are consistent with all six policy goals of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

These policy goals are set forth in Sec. 101 (b) of the NEPA:

In order to carry out the policy set forth in this Act, it is the continuing responsibility of the Federal Government to use all practicable means, consistent with other essential considerations of national policy, to improve and coordinate Federal plans, functions, programs, and resources to the end that the Nation may

- (1) fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
- (2) assure for all Americans a safe, healthful, productive, and esthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
- (3) attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
- (4) preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage, and maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity and variety of individual choice;

- (5) achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and
- (6) enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

The program to be implemented is primarily a blend of these two alternatives, with some specific modifications resulting from public comments received during the planning/EIS process, incorporation of new resource data, and implementation of new policies and regulations since completion of the Ironside EIS. Inclusion of these changes will reduce the adverse social and economic impacts, while maintaining the beneficial aspects of the Ironside EIS Proposed Action. As revised, the program is the environmentally preferred alternative and is consistent with all six NEPA goals.

What the Program Is

The major program actions were designed to meet objectives of several of BLM's resource management responsibilities. This section includes a detailed description of the major actions and their relationship to these diverse program objectives. Implementation of this program and accomplishment of many of the objectives is dependent on future appropriation of funds.

1. Grazing Management

The program includes allocation of 91,309 AUMs of livestock forage for 5,170 AUMs for deer, antelope and elk, 600 AUMs for wild horses, and 5,274 AUMs for nonconsumptive uses. Forage allocations for livestock for each allotment are shown in Appendix I. Over-all, this allocation represents a reduction in livestock use of less than one percent from the 1978 authorized use, and 13 percent from the 1977 active preference. As a result of recent changes in the Federal Grazing Regulations (43 CFR Part 4100), the grazing adjustments greater than 15 percent included in this program may be phased-in over a period of 5 years rather than 3 years as outlined in the Ironside EIS Proposed Action. This change, made possible by the new regulations, is responsive to the large number of comments expressing concern for the adverse economic impacts of the EIS Proposed Action.

The livestock allocation is subject to some change as a result of new data gathered during the consultation process. These changes would occur only when resource management would be improved. However, regardless of changes in the livestock use, there would be no reduction in the forage allocated to non-livestock uses.

Twenty-nine allotments covering 566,590 acres of public lands are scheduled for intensive management. The grazing systems to be implemented are summarized below and detailed by allotment in Appendix II. Allotment Management Plans (AMPs) will be developed for all intensive management allotments prior to October 31, 1981. The range improvements necessary to implement these grazing systems are shown for each allotment in Appendix III.

Grazing Systems (acres)

<u>Rest</u> <u>rotation</u>	<u>Deferred</u> <u>36,201</u>	<u>Deferred</u> <u>rotation</u>	<u>Spring</u> <u>73,110</u>	<u>Spring</u> <u>or Fall</u>	<u>Fenced 1/</u> <u>Federal Range</u>	<u>Fenced</u> <u>Exclusions</u>
146,813		291,075		1,666	1,921	4,514

1/ Fenced Federal Range - Generally, small tracts of public land, fenced into pastures with larger amounts of private lands. Generally these are nonintensive management areas; however, there are some public lands included in intensive management allotments which fit this definition.

Other management actions will be used to more intensively manage livestock grazing and include herding, salting, changing season of use and use created wheatgrass seedings to reduce pressure on native ranges.

Fifty-three allotments, covering 46,412 acres on numerous scattered tracts of public land, are scheduled for nonintensive management. Within this total, 922 acres will be fenced to exclude livestock. An additional 5,998 acres will have no authorized grazing use.

2. Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Management

The following actions are included in the program to maintain or improve aquatic and riparian habitat:

- Fence 20 miles of stream and 70 acres of riparian habitat to exclude livestock grazing.
- Maintain one fenced enclosure of 1.5 miles of stream and 6 acres of riparian habitat in the existing Cottonwood Wildlife Area. *where is this*
- Improve or maintain 50 miles of stream and 190 acres of riparian habitat by intensive management (restricting livestock numbers and seasons of use to early spring or late fall and winter).
- Improve riparian areas at spring developments by fencing 1-2 acres at overflow areas where potential for substantial improvement exists. This will exclude grazing from about 75 acres of riparian habitat.
- Improve fishery and riparian habitat at four reservoirs by excluding grazing on about 85 acres at Zotto, Allotment #3, South Cottonwood, and Murphy Reservoirs (including about 20 acres of aquatic and riparian habitat).
- Continue to protect Morrison Reservoir by maintaining the enclosure of 15 acres (about 5 acres of aquatic and riparian habitat will be included within the fence).

3. Water Resources Management

Erosion and runoff rates will be decreased by reducing grazing intensity and improving ecosite condition. It is estimated that after grazing has occurred about 70 percent of the total vegetation produced annually in the area will be

available for reducing soil loss and maintaining soil productivity. Erosion and runoff rates should decrease on 38,400 acres through brush control and reseeding.

Water quality will be maintained or improved on 70 miles of stream, on more than 100 springs, and 5 reservoirs as a result of stabilizing and improving streambank riparian vegetation.

4. Wildlife Habitat Management

Big game is allocated 5,170 AUMs of livestock forage. This allocation should support peak winter concentrations of about 6,500 deer, 100 elk, and 900 antelope. Lower animal numbers are present throughout the remainder of the year. This allocation of wildlife forage was established in coordination with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, public resource users, and other interest groups. Actual numbers of big game vary from year to year depending on climatic condition; however, these populations are probably near or slightly under the numbers stated above.

Forage allocation needs for other wildlife species have not been specified at this time. General wildlife habitat needs are considered in the management of aquatic and riparian areas, by establishing vegetation objectives consistent with habitat needs, by implementing grazing systems which will meet these vegetation objectives, and by designing range improvements to enhance habitat conditions.

On winter concentration areas the following described grazing systems will benefit big game by minimizing dietary overlap and direct competition for forage:

- a. Modified rest rotation or early spring grazing will benefit woody plants on 100,500 acres of upland and/or riparian habitat.
- b. Restricted seasons of use on 39,000 acres of seeding will preserve fall green-up for wintering deer and antelope.

Vegetation manipulation consisting of seeding (16,100 acres) and brush control (22,300 acres) will be designed to provide an optimum balance between wildlife cover and forage areas. The treatment area size, location and seeding mixture will be designed to provide diverse forage for deer and antelope.

5. Wild Horse Management

A herd of 30 to 50 wild horses will be maintained in the Hog Creek Herd Management Area by allocating 600 AUMs of livestock forage. The herd size and the forage allocation will be increased proportionately to any future livestock forage increases granted in Allotment #4 (203).

6. Resource Monitoring and Evaluation

The following resource studies will be conducted in intensive management allotments to evaluate the effectiveness of the range management program.

a. Livestock

Livestock use data will be obtained from the permittee annually. These records will reflect the grazing use made in each pasture. Livestock counts will be made periodically by the Bureau to verify these records.

b. Vegetation

Utilization studies will be conducted annually to measure how much vegetation, by key forage species, is removed by grazing animals. Trend studies will be conducted to determine long term changes in plant species composition in relation to vegetative objectives.

c. Climate

Climatological data will be gathered annually and evaluated to determine the effects of crop-year precipitation on herbage yields and for correlation with utilization studies.

d. Water Quality and Aquatic Life

Studies will be conducted to measure water quality and quantity. Low level infra-red photography will be used to document changes in aquatic habitats (including riparian vegetation) due to implementation of grazing management systems.

e. Wildlife

Actual use data will be obtained on elk, antelope and deer from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and supplemental BLM studies. Important habitats will be monitored to identify wildlife needs, and habitat trends and use. Studies will be conducted on exclosures in riparian areas to monitor vegetative trend, wildlife use and water yield.

f. Sensitive, Threatened and Endangered (T/E) Species

The sensitive species being considered for listing by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as either endangered or threatened will be studied to determine the effects of the management program on them.

What the Program Does

This program enables BLM to meet the multiple use mandates and agency missions spelled out in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA, 1976), the Public Rangelands Improvement Act (PRLA, 1978), and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 1969). The following discussion summarizes the beneficial and adverse effects of the proposed rangeland management program.

1. Livestock Forage

The planned level of grazing use combined with grazing systems and range improvements will maintain or improve ecosite condition. Over a 15 year period, available livestock forage is expected to increase by about 32 percent to about 120,300 AUMs. Approximately 29,000 additional AUMs which will be available; 6,000 come from vegetative manipulation and 23,000 from improved grazing management systems.

A short-term loss of forage vegetation production will occur on 38,400 acres proposed for seeding and brush control.

2. Soils and Water

Increased perennial plant cover resulting from the planned livestock management and land treatments will protect soils from both wind and water erosion. In the long term, this increased perennial cover is expected to decrease sediment yield and soil loss by 68 acre-feet per year, and reduce runoff by 3,000 acre-feet annually. This increase will also help stabilize streambanks and reduce soil loss.

The construction of range improvements will temporarily expose soil and result in a two to three year increase in sediment yield of 2 acre-feet annually.

3. Aquatic and Riparian Habitat

Water developments and fencing are expected to result in more even distribution of livestock. With fewer animals around perennial streams water quality is expected to improve.

Seventy miles of stream, more than 100 spring overflows, and 5 reservoirs will be managed and/or fenced to decrease livestock concentrations and fecal coliform bacteria. Riparian habitat will be maintained or improved on 375 acres included in these areas. This constitutes 77 percent of the total riparian acres in this portion of the EIS area. The 61 reservoirs planned would add about 30 acres of aquatic and riparian habitat. The program will significantly improve habitat conditions for more than 100 bird species as well as other terrestrial animals which require riparian habitat.

Adverse impacts now caused by livestock grazing will continue on approximately 30 miles of stream riparian zones (12 percent of total miles identified) and 110 acres (23 percent of total riparian acres identified). However, none of these streams is considered crucial for fish, and the costs of fencing or other methods of protection were deemed prohibitive compared to the benefits to be gained. Of the 30 miles identified above, 1.5 miles are in unallotted areas and 3.5 miles are in nonintensive management areas. The remaining 25 miles of stream will be under intensive grazing systems such as rest rotation or deferred rotation but may be adversely affected to some degree by grazing livestock.

4. Wildlife

The vegetation allocation will assure a dependable supply of forage for big game on public land. If consistent with land use plan objectives, a portion of the increased forage expected in the long term, may be allocated to big game.

The 61 reservoir developments will make additional upland areas usable by game and non-game species.

The grazing systems planned in deer and antelope winter ranges will help insure adequate quantities of quality forage. These systems will benefit about 6,000 deer on 100,000 acres of mule deer winter range and 800 antelope on 39,000 acres of antelope winter range.

Vegetation manipulation, consisting of 16,100 acres of seedings and 22,300 acres of brush control using fire, chemical sprays or mechanical treatments, will add diversity and improved forage areas for most big game and non-game animals. However, some species such as sage sparrow and sagebrush lizard which are dependent on sagebrush will probably be displaced from treatment areas.

Wildlife species differ markedly in their habitat requirements. This program will help provide a variety of vegetative successional stages and a corresponding variety of habitats for the widest number of species.

5. Wild Horses

The allocation of 600 AUMs of competitive forage should allow the Hog Creek wild horse herd to stabilize and maintain a healthy condition. Two reservoirs scheduled for construction will provide water and allow the herd to use a portion of the area which has not always been available. Management of a population of 30 to 50 wild horses should allow browse species on the deer winter range and the riparian vegetation along Hog Creek to improve.

6. Socio-Economic Conditions

In the short-term, the installation of range improvement projects over a 5-year period (totalling \$1,368,000) can be expected to increase annual local personal income (net) by \$110,000 per year.

The proposed program for the 53 nonintensive management allotments should cause a small decrease in local personal income. Specifically, five allotments will receive increases of 313 AUMs, 37 will receive reductions totalling 3,638 AUMs and 11 allotments will not change. However, the public lands in these allotments are a minor portion of those livestock operations. In some instances, using a private property asset valuation of \$65 per AUM, a net property value reduction of about \$216,000 may occur. Five operations would increase about \$20,000, while 34 would be decreased by \$236,000 and eleven would not change. A study completed in 1980 by Oregon State University for the Baker County Court provides factors that are used to estimate the

total (direct and indirect) local personal income effect of economic changes. While perhaps not strictly applicable for economic conditions in Malheur County, the study provides a uniform basis for estimating local economic impacts of changes in dependent grazing. Annual local personal income reductions due to the 3,325 AUM reduction on nonintensive management allotments would be about \$61,000.

The proposed changes in stocking rates for the 29 intensive management allotments from their 1977 authorized use would have a substantial impact on local personal income and property valuation. Twenty allotments and about 50 operators would be reduced 13,399 AUMs for a loss of \$871,000 in property value and \$246,000 in annual local personal income. Four allotments would be increased by 3,046 AUMs for gains of \$56,000 in local personal income and \$198,000 in property value. Five allotments would not change. The net change from 1977 would indicate a loss of \$190,000 in annual local personal income and \$673,000 in property values.

The proposed changes in stocking rates for the 29 intensive management allotments from their 1978 authorized use would increase local personal income and property valuation since there would be a net increase of 3,141 AUMs. Eighteen operators would have reductions totalling 2,352 AUMs with a corresponding loss of \$43,000 in annual local personal income and \$153,000 in property values. On the other hand, eight operators in five allotments would receive increases of 5,493 AUMs resulting in gains of \$101,000 in annual local personal income and \$357,000 in private property valuation. Use in sixteen allotments would not change. The net change for intensively managed allotments would cause gains of \$58,000 in annual local personal income and \$204,000 in property valuation.

The net short-term change from 1978 and 1977 for all affected allotments is a reduction of 184 AUMs (1978 basis) or 13,698 AUMs (1977 basis). The combined reduction of annual local personal income of residents of Malheur County would be about \$3,400 (1978 basis) or \$251,000 (1977 basis). Including the economic boost of range improvement installation the total local annual personal income effect is +\$107,000 (1978 basis) or -\$141,000 (1977 basis).

In the long-term, new water developments will result in livestock traveling less distance from feed to water and thus will improve utilization patterns. Vegetation manipulation and improved management will lead to increased quantity and quality of forage. The net impact should improve livestock performance.

Although some ranchers will experience a short term negative economic impact from initial livestock reductions, long term impacts will be beneficial. Within 15 years, 29,000 additional AUMs should be available. This leads to a net increase in private property asset valuation of about \$1.9 million dollars. Based on the Baker County study prepared by OSU, the annual local personal income of permittees, their employees, other local business and their employees, would be increased by \$532,000.

ALTERNATIVES

The Ironside EIS analyzed the environmental impacts of a proposed rangeland management program and the following five alternative actions. Portions of these alternatives are included in the adopted rangeland program.

The Proposed Action, the Limit Downward Adjustments, the Optimize Livestock Grazing, and the Optimize Wildlife, Wild Horses, and Nonconsumptive Uses alternatives were derived from the EIS scoping process and the land use plans developed for the Ironside EIS area.

The No Action Alternative is mandated by CEQ regulations and the Eliminate Livestock Grazing Alternative was included for comparison as a matter of Bureau Policy.

No Action

This alternative would provide for authorized livestock use to continue at the present level (91,493 AUMs). There would be no specific forage allocation for wildlife or wild horses, although the number of wild horses would be maintained at 30 to 50 head.

No new allotment management plans would be developed. Present stocking rates and seasons of use would continue. Existing range improvement projects would be maintained, but no new developments would be constructed.

This alternative was not adopted because forage plants on fair and poor condition ranges would remain in low vigor and there would be little or no improvement in rangeland condition. Riparian vegetation would continue to deteriorate. Competition between livestock and wildlife would remain high on some big game winter ranges.

Eliminate Livestock Grazing

This alternative would eliminate all livestock grazing on all BLM managed public lands in the Ironside area. The 600 AUMs of livestock forage allocated to wild horses would be maintained. While existing range improvements would be left in place, only those benefiting other resources would be maintained.

This alternative was not adopted because it is contrary to the mandates of the Taylor Grazing Act and would not enhance multiple use of the public lands as outlined in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Limit Downward Adjustments

This alternative and its impacts are the same as the proposed action except for those allotments where the downward adjustment exceeds 20 percent of the present active livestock use. Reductions would be phased in over a five-year period. The initial reduction or increase in the first year would not be more than either 20 percent or one-third of the livestock adjustment included in the proposed action. Range studies would then be initiated to monitor actual

use, forage utilization and trend to determine what adjustments of use are needed in the 3rd and 5th years of implementation. Grazing systems and range improvements would be implemented during the 5 year period. The scheduled incremental reductions or increases would not be made if resource objectives are being met.

Economic impacts would be reduced by providing a longer phase-in period to reach the adjustment needed to balance livestock use with forage supply. Data from monitoring studies would indicate the action that would be required to meet resource management objectives. Accepting this alternative may cause a two year delay in reaching the program objectives.

The five-year phase-in criteria of this alternative was accepted and made a part of the program selected. The phase-in procedure was modified and published as Bureau policy in the Federal Register on January 19, 1981.

Optimize Livestock Grazing

This alternative would initially allocate all available forage (102,353 AUMs) to livestock. This amount is 11,044 AUMs more for livestock than the selected program. There would be no allocation of competitive forage for big game. Riparian areas would be protected only to the extent needed to meet Federal and State water quality standards. Wildlife exclosures would be grazed 1 out of every 3 years.

Livestock grazing would have preference over the other resource values. Most MFP objectives or constraints which give priority to non-livestock uses would not apply. All other aspects of the selected program, including range improvement projects and grazing systems, would apply in implementing this alternative.

This alternative was not selected because of the adverse consequences the additional land treatments would have on deer winter range areas and other wildlife habitats. Also this alternative does not allocate livestock forage to wildlife. These animals would continue to consume about 5,000 AUMs of livestock forage leading to potential overgrazing in wildlife concentration areas. Impacts on riparian areas and erosion would be greater than at the present time.

Optimize Wildlife, Wild Horses, and Nonconsumptive Uses

Under this alternative the allocation of forage would favor wildlife and nonconsumptive uses. There would be 20,720 AUMs less forage for livestock than the proposed action. The allocation under this alternative would be achieved by excluding livestock from all riparian areas, by allocating to wildlife the forage required to support the highest historic big game populations, and by limiting total grazing use by all animals to 40 percent of the annual production of the key species.

This alternative would allocate forage in excess of the current wildlife needs. The present population of big game animals are near the proposed "Herd

Management Objective" numbers. Deer populations are presently lower than the historic peak but elk numbers are at their historic peak. However, allocation of forage would not exceed the need of big game numbers that will eventually be established. Wild horses would be allowed to increase to 196 head and would be allocated 2,360 AUMs of forage.

Limiting total forage use to 40 percent of the key species will generally hasten range and riparian area improvement. Although this alternative is environmentally sound and would benefit most resource conditions such as water quality, it is not accepted as the adopted program because of the resulting negative economic and social impacts. In addition, wildlife objectives can basically be achieved by allocating forage as described in the proposed program to meet the needs of the "Herd Management Objective" numbers of big game. Also, by implementing grazing systems and making use adjustments and developing range improvement projects a balanced multiple use program can be achieved without the adverse economic and social impacts associated with a program weighted heavily to wildlife and nonconsumptive uses.

RELATIONSHIP OF THIS RANGELAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO THE IRONSIDE EIS PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

Intensity of Management

The Ironside EIS proposed action identified 35 allotments for intensive management. This rangeland management program will implement intensive management on 29 of these allotments. The remaining six will be managed less intensively for the following reasons:

Sheep Corral Creek Allot. No. 122 - this allotment has only 16 percent public land, 1,318 acres. Of this 99 percent, or 1,299 acres are in late (good) condition. There were no significant values identified during the planning which would indicate a change in management is necessary.

Cottonwood Creek Allot. No. 140 - This allotment has 701 acres of public land and 740 acres of private land. The original reason for intensive management was to improve one mile of riparian vegetation along Cottonwood Creek. Instead, this one mile of Cottonwood Creek will be fenced (160 acres including upland habitats) to protect the stream by excluding livestock use under this program.

Malheur River Allot. No. 219 - There are 640 acres of public land and 1,080 acres of private land in this allotment. The primary reason for intensive management was to protect and improve riparian along 1.2 miles of the Little Malheur River. Instead, this 1.2 mile section of the stream (160 acres including upland habitat) will be fenced to exclude livestock use.

Lockhart Mountain Allot. No. 224 - this allotment with 1,600 acres of public land and 2,560 acres of private land was erroneously shown as an intensive management area in the Ironside EIS.

Vale Butte (N) Allot. No. 409 and Vale Butte (S) Allot. No. 413 - these two areas contain 525 acres of public land and 28 acres of private. Vegetation on both allotments is predominantly in late (good) condition. The opportunities and need to improve resource condition do not warrant a change from the present nonintensive management.

Management Systems

The Ironside EIS proposed action included tentative grazing systems developed to achieve a specific management objective. Without changing these objectives, more practical and workable grazing systems have now been developed for several allotments which will require a minimum of new range improvements and which will, unlike the EIS proposal, take into account factors such as differences in elevations and climate.

The Ironside EIS proposed a variety of grazing systems for seeded areas (primarily crested wheatgrass) throughout the area. This proposal has been changed so that deferred rotation grazing systems with a 60 percent *may be high* utilization limit will be used on all seedings. This will allow increased forage utilization while still maintaining or improving the vigor of the seeded species. *range*

The following changes in riparian management are proposed:

- Two years rest from livestock grazing will not be required on any riparian area because the Ironside EIS estimated the two years rest will allow attainment of the riparian management objective only 5 years sooner (10 years instead of 15). The loss of livestock forage required by two full years rest is not warranted.
- The EIS proposed that the Cottonwood Mountain pasture of Allotment #2 (201) be grazed as a unit under restricted seasons and reduced utilization rates to improve the riparian along NG Creek and Cottonwood Creek. Instead, the riparian areas will be fenced from the remainder of the pasture and grazed separately. This will allow increased livestock use in the upland areas.

*to Cottonwood
Creek still
recognized
as stock
diversity*

The EIS proposed that the Malheur River Allotment (219) be grazed as a unit under restricted seasons and reduced utilization rates to improve the riparian along Little Malheur River. This same proposal applied to the Malheur River in Allotment #6 (204), Cottonwood Creek in the Cottonwood Creek Allotment (140), and Indian Creek in the Stud Horse Pasture of Allotment #3 (202). Instead, these riparian areas will be fenced to exclude livestock grazing and the remaining areas managed to improve or maintain upland vegetation.

*Indian
Creek
stock
diversity*

*is it still being used to move cattle from
westfall to pasture to north & west?*

Range Improvements

*where are you putting your seedling
& what about medusa - In Redman
seedling North of Tub Mtn*

The proposed seeding in Alkali Allotment (101) was increased by 3,700 acres to a total of 7,000 acres. The area of annual grass and weeds that can be seeded with perennial grass, to create a dependable supply of livestock and wildlife forage, is greater than first estimated.

The 520 acre seeding in Allotment #4 (203) was originally deleted because it is located in a critical deer winter range where cover is extremely important. However, this particular seeding area has no brush cover and is dominated by annual grasses. The seeding would increase available winter forage for deer and constitute a habitat improvement.

Fencing and other types of improvements have been slightly reduced because of simplified grazing systems. All of the projects are subject to further modification based upon new data, benefit/cost analyses, site specific environmental analysis, and congressional appropriations.

Forage Production

A 1976 Ocular Reconnaissance Range Survey was the basis for livestock forage production estimates for the 29 intensive management allotments. The data depicted in the EIS was not adjusted to a normal growing year. The precipitation for that year was about two-thirds of normal for the public lands within the Vale District. The data used in the Ironside EIS has now been adjusted upward to reflect production in normal-precipitation years.

During 1978, 1979, and 1980 utilization and actual use studies were conducted on each grazed pasture in the 29 intensive management allotments. The utilization and actual use information was adjusted to normal year precipitation and used as another set of livestock forage production data. Although neither the range survey nor the utilization and actual use methods are perfectly accurate, an assumption was made for purposes of analysis that current production lies between the two sets of forage production data.

After total production was calculated for both sets of data, the appropriate deductions were made for non-livestock forage users (big game, wild horses and nonconsumptive uses) and adjustments made for the type of grazing system proposed. If the present livestock use fell between the two forage production figures, the present use level would be continued. If the present livestock use was higher than either of the two figures, the initial stocking level was reduced to the higher of the two numbers. If present livestock use was below the range, the initial stocking was increased to the low number. The initial stocking rates will be confirmed or adjusted at the end of the third and fifth year study period as provided by the recently adopted grazing regulations.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Planning

District personnel made periodic formal and informal contacts during the planning process with representatives of 30 agencies and institutions.

Fifty-two responses were received to a written notice dated September 17, 1976 asking for information and recommendations for the planning effort. Individual contacts with public land users, agencies, etc, to gain specific resource information numbered nearly 100 during the period 1976-1978. The Oregon A-95 Clearinghouse gave comments April 23, 1978, May 1, 1978, and April 18, 1979.

A day long and evening open house was held in Vale, Oregon on April 4, 1979 to solicit comments and suggestions on the multiple use analysis and alternative decisions. More than 90 individuals and representatives of agencies and institutions either attended this workshop or gave comments later.

Twenty-six persons attended an August 13-14, 1979 afternoon and evening open house to discuss the proposed MFP decisions.

Draft EIS

August 16, 1979: A meeting was held at Ontario, Oregon to determine which issues should be considered for discussion in the Ironside EIS and to design realistic alternatives to the proposed action. Twenty persons attended.

February 20, 1980: Dr. Kerry Gee, Colorado State University Agricultural Economist under BLM contract, met with 25 ranchers from the Ironside area to gather economic data relating to ranch budgets.

April 28, 1980: The Draft Ironside Grazing Management EIS (Interior DEIS 80-26) was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and released to the public on April 28, 1980. The 60 day comment period ended on June 27, 1980.

June 3-4, 1980: Public hearings on the draft were held in Ontario, Oregon, and Baker, Oregon respectively. Oral testimony was received from eight people in Ontario and 18 in Baker. A total of 26 letters were received.

Final EIS

September 22, 1980: The Final Ironside Grazing Management EIS was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and made available to the public. Five comment letters were submitted for consideration in the final land use decisions.

Aside from those received concerning the quality of the EIS analysis, the majority of the comments expressed concerns about the adverse economic impacts to be caused by the proposed action. Many comments were also received concerning the management of riparian and other important wildlife habitats areas. In addition, several comments pointed out that study data gathered since 1978 had not been considered in the EIS.

All the comments received were considered prior to drafting this rangeland management program. These comments were incorporated in the following ways where consistent with policy and resource objectives:

- a. Major grazing use adjustments will be phased-in over a five-year period rather than three years. This action will provide a longer period for adjusting operations and will provide additional time to evaluate monitoring studies data and to allow time for management actions to be completed.
- b. Riparian area management has been reviewed to include an optimum acreage within practical management systems and feasible exclusion areas..
- c. Studies data collected since 1978 has been evaluated from all intensive management allotments; many where the EIS showed significant adjustments were necessary. Where the new data did not support the need for grazing adjustments, they were scaled back to reflect the new data.

IMPLEMENTATION

Administrative Actions

Release of the Draft Ironside Rangeland Program Summary (RPS) and Record of Decision to interested groups and individuals will serve as public notice of the proposed range management program and will be the start of a 45 day comment and review period. A public comment meeting will be held on March 26, 1981 at 7:30 pm in Ontario, Oregon at Treasure Valley Community College in the W-10, Weese Building. Upon completion of the comment period, all comments will be considered. In early June the Final Rangeland Program Summary and Record of Decision will be released.

Individual consultations by the District and Area Manager with grazing permittees and other interests will begin after the RPS is released. They will cooperatively develop grazing systems, and other aspects of the AMPs for each intensive management allotment. The District Grazing Advisory Board will also review AMPs being developed for the area.

On those areas where vegetative manipulation is undertaken, grazing use will be suspended for at least two growing seasons to allow the seedlings to become established. Grazing use will be re-established as range condition warrants.

AMPs will be completed for all intensively managed allotments by October 31, 1981. An updated RPS, which incorporates changes made in response to public comments, consultation with permittees, and any new data available, will also be published and circulated for comments by October 31, 1981. Individual operators and anyone who, in writing, has indicated that their interests are affected by this program will be issued a "Notice of Proposed Decision" by November 30, 1981. The "Notice of Proposed Decision" may be protested or appealed under provisions of the grazing regulations (43 CFR 4160.2 and 4160.4). Except where appeals are filed, these decisions will be effective March 1, 1982 for the 1982 grazing year.

Range Improvements and Appropriations

Achieving the resource objectives for the Ironside area is heavily dependent upon completion of range improvements. A tentative list of the projects and the funding needed for implementing this program and achieving the land use plan objectives is shown in Appendix III. In some allotments few range improvements are needed and grazing systems will be implemented immediately. In other cases interim grazing systems will be implemented pending construction of needed range improvements. The proposed range improvements will be completed within a five-year period if \$274,000 are appropriated annually. Annual costs for range supervision, monitoring, and project maintenance will be \$120,000. Construction priorities will be based on the following criteria:

1. Analysis of costs and benefits.
2. Opportunities to improve unsatisfactory resource conditions.
3. Opportunities to stabilize the livestock community, including individual permittees.
4. Environmental or other resource considerations.

Completion of the planned rangeland facilities will begin in Fiscal Year 1982 if funds become available. BLM's range management and range improvement programs funded through Congressional appropriations and from 50 percent of the grazing fees collected.

Grazing Use Adjustments

For intensive management allotments, adjustments of 15 percent or less of active use will be made effective March 1, 1982. If monitoring studies later indicate a need to bring livestock use in line with capacity, additional adjustments will be made in the third and fifth year after the initial adjustment. Deviations from the schedule of grazing adjustments as established in the final decision must be based on additional data of at least equal quality to that upon which the original schedule was based. If the monitoring studies information indicate a need to modify the final decision either upward or downward, the District Manager will issue an amended decision following consultation with the livestock operator and publication of an updated RPS.

For nonintensive management allotments, adjustments of 15 percent or less will become effective March 1, 1982. Adjustments of 15 percent or more will be made in equal annual increments during the first 3 years.

The initial reduction, other management actions or a combination of both included in the final grazing decision will be large enough to assure significant progress toward achieving the identified vegetation objectives.

Periodic Progress Reports

As this rangeland management program is implemented, a record of progress will be maintained and the specific program details will be contained in an a periodic update of this RPS. The publication will provide a resume of

Ironside Rangeland Program Summary

Record of Decision

Addendum

The following information was inadvertently left out of the Vale District's Ironside Rangeland Program Summary and Record of Decision. The paragraph below should be included on page 19 in the section titled, Grazing Use Adjustment.

"For the allotments to be under intensive management, all decreases in authorized livestock use are less than 15 percent. Therefore, the adjustments will be made effective by March 1, 1982. Several allotments will have increases in livestock use exceeding 15 percent. In those cases, the authorized active use will be increased by up to 15 percent effective on March 1, 1982. The remaining increases will be effective for the third grazing season (March 1, 1984) or as monitoring studies indicate is proper."

livestock grazing decisions, monitoring results, range improvement progress and management system information. This report will be released annually in late fall or winter for public consideration and comment. The first Rangeland Program Summary update will be released approximately on November 31, 1981.

Appendix I

FORAGE ALLOCATION

Allotment Number and Name	Public lands (acres)	Other lands (acres)	Management Type	Wildlife Forage (AUMs)	Livestock use (AUMs)	1977 Active Grazing Preference (AUMs)	Adjustments from 1977 Active		1978 Authorized Use (AUMs)	Adjustments from 1978	
							Grazing Preference (AUMs)	Grazing Preference (AUMs)		Authorized Use (AUMs)	Authorized Use (AUMs)
101 Alkali Spring	56,677	8,320	I	192	10,144	12,346		-2,202	10,492		-348
102 Cottonwood	33,459	1,989	I	422	5,274	7,383		-2,109	5,274		0
103 Poall Creek	2,967	1,553	I	27	516	655		-139	516		-40
104 West Bench	1,111	135	I	2	113	211		-98	113		0
105 Willow Creek (Lvstck)	3,837	1,111	I	3	486	986		-500	486		0
106 Jamieson	80	352	N	1	5	24		-19	24		-19
107 Grove Road	360	4,233	N	4	22	64		-42	64		-42
108 Golden Eagle Mine	400	1,801	N	7	46	34		+12	34		+12
109 Bridge Creek	40	440	N	1	4	4		0	4		0
110 Reservoir Butte	1,000	1,110	N	10	61	182		-121	182		-121
111 Lyman Creek	80	2,580	N	2	7	7		0	7		0
112 Ironside Mtn (W)	1,003	3,880	N	20	124	124		0	124		0
113 Boston Horse Camp	764	1,543	N	13	83	245		-162	245		-162
114 Ironside Mtn (E)	2,197	13,750	N	36	140	140		0	140		0
115 Cow Valley	594	29,927	N	7	43	80		-37	80		-37
116 East Moores Hollow	872	4,130	N	8	54	110		-56	110		-56
117 Becker Creek	1,272	7,626	N	14	92	565		-473	565		-473
118 Malheur Res.	775	3,327	N	9	56	80		-24	80		-24
119 Lost Valley	800	4,730	N	9	58	210		-152	210		-152
120 Boswell Spring	1,502	4,582	N	20	30	120		-90	120		-90
121 Middle Willow Cr.	480	2,743	N	7	43	43		0	43		0
122 Sheep Corral Cr.	1,318	6,851	N	8	337	212		+125	212		+125
123 Wickiup Gulch	1,905	3,708	N	18	118	140		-22	140		-22
124 Bridge Gulch	2,730	1,340	N	26	169	488		-319	488		-319
125 Phipps Creek	1,751	1,465	I	62	194	245		-51	208		-14
127 Thorn Flat	3,412	615	I	26	802	987		-185	802		-0
129 Dry Gulch	863	1,242	N	10	62	140		-78	140		-78
130 Malheur City	1,351	3,603	I	7	184	328		-144	273		-89
131 Baldy Mountain	3,292	1,599	I	22	443	503		-60	443		0
132 Bully Creek	5,151	3,580	I	16	707	980		-273	707		0
133 Kivett	240	2,417	N	4	26	46		-20	46		-20

Appendix I (cont'd)

Allotment Number and Name	Public lands (acres)	Other lands (acres)	Manage- ment Type I/	Wildlife Forage (AUMs)	Livestock use (AUMs)	1977 Active Grazing Prefer- ence (AUMs)	Adjustments from 1977 Active		Adjustments 1978 from 1978	
							Grazing Pre- ference (AUMs)	Authorized Use (AUMs)	Authorized Use (AUMs)	Authorized Use (AUMs)
134 Juniper Mtn.	874	1,925	N	20	126	126	0	126	0	0
135 Dry Creek Indiv.	1,601	2,357	N	15	99	280	-181	280	-181	-181
136 King Field Indiv.	850	2,562	N	10	61	76	-15	76	-15	-15
137 Phipps Cr. (E)	580	2,790	N	6	35	84	-49	84	-49	-49
138 Boulder Cr.	358	4,913	N	5	31	84	-53	84	-53	-53
139 Phipps Cr. (N)	3,767	2,350	I	39	784	784	0	784	0	0
140 Cottonwood Creek	701	740	N	8	38	87	-49	87	-49	-49
141 Ferriers Gulch	320	4,240	N	4	28	54	-26	54	-26	-26
142 Ironside School	40	1,213	N	1	4	4	0	4	0	0
143 Alder Creek	1,212	2,179	I	18	198	198	0	198	0	0
144 Cow Creek	1,299	2,301	N	18	112	330	-218	330	-218	-218
145 Bridge Cr. (E)	900	4,650	N	12	78	165	-87	165	-87	-87
146 Eldorado Cr.	360	1,240	N	5	31	60	-29	60	-29	-29
147 Quarry	80	76	N	51	2	15	-13	15	-13	-13
148 Brogan Canyon	1,666	810	I	55	300	360	-60	300	0	0
149 Wheel Gulch	817	1,207	N	8	50	82	-32	82	-32	-32
150 Butterfield Spr.	628	4,590	N	6	39	74	-35	74	-35	-35
151 Canyon Creek	480	1,514	N	5	35	60	-25	60	-25	-25
152 Canal	272	1,253	N	33	16	57	-41	57	-41	-41
153 South Willow Cr.	1,632	5,127	N	32	85	85	0	85	0	0
154 Shasta Butte	510	3,437	N	3	21	61	-40	61	-40	-40
155 Amelia Butte	240	4,387	N	3	13	13	0	13	0	0
157 Stripe Mtn.	4,328	1,623	I	86	1,015	1,015	0	863	+152	+152
201 Allotment #2	46,352	4,423	I	196	6,382	8,742	-2,360	7,431	-1,049	-1,049
202 Allotment #3	76,866	15,564	I	586	13,050	12,238	+812	11,141	+1,909	+1,909
203 Allotment #4 2/	57,548	1,903	I	164	5,502	5,502	0	5,502	0	0
204 Allotment #6	6,938	501	I	71	1,201	1,540	-339	1,201	0	0
205 Rail Canyon	22,884	2,970	I	203	2,890	3,023	-133	3,023	-133	-133
206 Dearmand/Murphy	35,096	12,333	I	324	5,937	6,485	-548	4,293	+1,644	+1,644
208 Ringe Butte	440	3,240	N	5	32	105	-73	105	-73	-73
209 Oregon Canal	1,280	3,770	N	15	94	21	+73	21	+73	+73
210 Clover Cr. Indiv.	5,600	20,500	N	77	483	888	-405	888	-405	-405
211 Castle Rock	23,212	20,437	I	245	5,935	4,188	+1,747	4,188	+1,747	+1,747
212 Butte Tree	640	2,240	N	11	69	123	-54	123	-54	-54
214 Richie Flat	17,599	607	I	225	2,815	3,549	-734	3,022	-207	-207

Appendix I (cont'd)

Allotment Number and Name	Public lands (acres)	Other lands (acres)	Manage- ment Type 1/	Wildlife Forage (AUMs)	Livestock use (AUMs)	1977 Active Grazing Prefer- ence (AUMs)	Adjustments	1978 Authorized Use (AUMs)	Adjustments
							from 1977 Active Grazing Pre- ference (AUMs)		from 1978 Authorized Use (AUMs)
216 Whitley Canyon	14,201	4,757	I	261	1,979	2,320	-341	1,979	0
217 Beulah Res.	35,997	13,574	I,S	463	5,460	5,753	-293	5,460	0
218 Buck Brush	22,637	3,495	I	102	3,578	4,198	-620	3,578	0
219 Malheur River	640	1,080	N	11	53	170	-117	170	-117
222 Willow Basin	41,639	9,189	I	341	5,913	8,123	-2,210	6,385	-472
223 Lava Ridge	11,168	1,344	I	183	1,722	1,722	0	1,722	0
224 Lockhart Mtn.	1,600	2,560	N	27	214	159	+55	159	+55
225 Chukar Park	540	540	N	5	35	105	-70	105	-70
226 Cottonwood Cr.	950	920	N	11	68	192	-124	192	-124
227 Westfall	1,442	280	I	25	167	126	+41	126	+41
228 Scratch Post Butte	920	6,560	N	21	132	84	+48	84	+48
233 Squaw Butte	320	2,000	N	5	35	64	-29	64	-29
244 Post Creek	1,140	3,280	N	16	98	320	-222	320	-222
402 North Harper	29,030	2,991	I	207	3,775	3,329	+446	3,775	0
409 Vale Butte (N)	80	28	N	2	10	10	0	10	0
413 Vale Butte (S)	445	28	N	2	36	72	-36	72	-36
Unallotted	5,998	-	U	-	0	-	-	-	-
Total:	619,000	324,880		5,170	91,309	104,987	-13,678	91,493	-184

1/ I-Intensive management; N-Nonintensive management; U-Unallotted.

S-Approved for experimental Stewardship Program authorized under the Public Rangelands Improvement Act (PRIA,1978).

Appendix II.

Approximate Periods of Use and Grazing Systems

Allotment Number and Name	Period 1/ of Use	Grazing Systems (Public Land Acres)						
		Spring	Spring or Fall	Deferred	Deferred Rotation	Rest Rotation	Exclusion	FFR 2/
101 Alkali Spring	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	44740	11436	113	388
102 Cottonwood	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	32941	0	518	0
103 Poall Creek	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	2965	0	2	0
104 West Bench	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	0	1111	0	0
105 Willow Creek (Lvstk)	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	3837	0	0	0
106 Jamieson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80
107 Grove Road	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	360
108 Golden Eagle Mine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	400
109 Bridge Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
110 Reservoir Butte	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1000
111 Lyman Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80
112 Ironside Mtn (W)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1003
113 Boston Horse Camp	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	764
114 Ironside Mtn (E)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2197
115 Cow Valley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	594
116 East Moore Hollow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	872
117 Becker Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1272
118 Malheur Res.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	775
119 Lost Valley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	800
120 Boswell Spring	-	-	-	-	-	-	602	900
121 Middle Willow Cr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	480
122 Sheep Corral Cr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1318
123 Wickiup Gulch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1905
124 Bridge Gulch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2730
125 Phipps Creek	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	0	1751	0	0
127 Thorn Flat	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	3412	0	0	0
129 Dry Gulch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	863
130 Malheur City	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	1124	0	0	227
131 Baldy Mountain	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	3292	0	0	0
132 Bully Creek	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	0	5149	2	0
133 Kivett	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	240

Appendix II (cont'd)

Allotment Number and Name	Period <u>1/</u> of Use	Grazing Systems (Public Land Acres)						FFR 2/
		Spring	Spring or Fall	Deferred	Deferred Rotation	Rest Rotation	Exclusion	
134 Juniper Mtn.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	874
135 Dry Creek Indiv.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1601
136 King Field Indiv.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	850
137 Phipps Cr. (E)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	580
138 Boulder Cr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	358
139 Phipps Cr. (N)	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	0	3767	0	0
140 Cottonwood Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	160	541
141 Ferriers Gulch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	320
142 Ironside School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
143 Alder Creek	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	0	1212	0	0
144 Cow Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1299
145 Bridge Cr. (E)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	900
146 Eldorado Cr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	360
147 Quarry	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80
148 Brogan Canyon	03/01-09/15	0	1666	0	0	0	0	0
149 Wheel Gulch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	817
150 Butterfield Spr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	628
151 Canyon Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	480
152 Canal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	272
153 South Willow Cr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1632
154 Shasta Butte	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	510
155 Amelia Butte	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	240
157 Stripe Mtn.	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	4097	0	0	231
201 Allotment #2	03/01-10/31	6062	0	10486	20830	7340	1098	536
202 Allotment #3	03/01-10/31	25471	0	0	47222	0	469	3704
203 Allotment #4 <u>2/</u>	03/01-10/31	6446	0	0	25163	25855	84	0
204 Allotment #6	03/01-10/31	6614	0	0	0	0	324	0
205 Rail Canyon	03/01-10/31	8185	0	0	12112	2581	6	0
206 Dearmand/Murphy	03/01-10/31	1013	0	9361	1730	20040	72	2880
208 Ringe Butte	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	440
209 Oregon Canal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1280
210 Clover Cr. Indiv.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5600
211 Castle Rock	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	12632	7662	364	2554
212 Butte Tree	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	640
214 Richie Flat	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	7605	9757	167	70

Appendix II (cont'd)

Allotment Number and Name	Period <u>1/</u> of Use	Grazing Systems (Public Land Acres)						FFR <u>2/</u>
		Spring	Spring or Fall	Deferred	Deferred Rotation	Rest Rotation	Exclusion	
216 Whitley Canyon	03/01-10/31	0	0	2612	858	10318	362	51
217 Beulah Res.	03/01-10/31	3274	0	0	16801	12084	10	3828
218 Buck Brush	04/01-10/31	0	0	7742	13947	513	0	435
219 Malheur River	-	-	-	-	-	-	160	480
222 Willow Basin	03/01-10/31	11331	0	0	15205	11468	112	3523
223 Lava Ridge	04/01-10/31	4714	0	0	5855	0	164	435
224 Lockhart Mtn.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1600
225 Chukar Park	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	540
226 Cottonwood Cr.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	950
227 Westfall	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	1442	0	0	0
228 Scratch Post Butte	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	920
233 Squaw Butte	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	320
244 Post Creek	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1140
402 North Harpér	04/01-10/31	0	0	0	13265	14769	647	349
409 Vale Butte (N)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	80
413 Vale Butte (S)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	445
Unallotted	-	-	-	-	-	-	5998 ^{3/}	-
Total Acres:		73110	1666	30201	291075	146813	11434	64701

1/ Seasons of Use for nonintensive management areas are not shown. Generally the season of use is 04/01-10/31, however this can vary from year to year, and will not be restricted unless damage to public lands is occurring.

2/ FFR: Fenced Federal Range - Generally, small tracts of public land, fenced into pastures with larger amounts of private lands. Generally these are nonintensive management areas; however, there are some public lands included in intensive management allotments which fit this definition.

3/ Unallotted public lands are not included in any grazing allotment and no grazing is authorized.

Appendix III.

Range Improvements 1/

Allotment No./ Allotment Name	Seeding (acres)	Brush Control (acres)	Fence (miles)	Springs	Wells	Reservoirs	Pipelines (miles)	Estimate Range Improvement Costs (000)
101 Alkali Spring	7000	1482	25.00	3	1	5	30.00	\$ 341
102 Cottonwood	747	1566	3.00	2	-0-	3	-0-	53
103 Poall Creek	-0-	-0-	1.00	1	-0-	-1-	-0-	9
105 Willow Creek	1800	-0-	2.00	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	25
112 Ironside Mtn. (W)	-0-	-0-	5.00	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	11
114 Ironside Mtn. (E)	-0-	-0-	5.00	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	11
120 Boswell Spring	-0-	-0-	0.50	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	4
131 Baldy Mountain	-0-	-0-	0.25	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	1
132 Bully Creek	-0-	-0-	4.00	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	9
140 Cottonwood Cr.	-0-	-0-	1.50	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	4
148 Brogan Canyon	-0-	-0-	4.00	2	-0-	1	-0-	18
201 Allotment #2	1152	1920	16.75	3	1	-0-	4.00	117
202 Allotment #3	-0-	3960	22.00	5	-0-	6	-0-	121
203 Allotment #4	520	-0-	5.00	3	-0-	7	-0-	61
204 Allotment #6	-0-	-0-	6.50	-0-	-0-	-0-	1.00	20
205 Rail Canyon	-0-	1944	0.25	-0-	-0-	5	-0-	42
206 Dearmand/Murphy	576	1956	10.75	3	-0-	2	-0-	67
211 Castle Rock	-0-	-0-	1.00	9	-0-	-0-	-0-	20
214 Richie Flat	-0-	2304	1.50	2	-0-	3	-0-	42
216 Whitley Canyon	-0-	-0-	1.75	2	-0-	5	-0-	32
217 Beulah Reservoir	-0-	2100	4.00	7	-0-	10	-0-	89
218 Buck Brush	-0-	-0-	1.50	-0-	-0-	2	-0-	13
219 Malheur River	-0-	-0-	1.50	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	4
222 Willow Basin	960	5064	5.00	3	-0-	7	1.00	117
223 Lava Ridge	-0-	-0-	1.25	3	-0-	4	3.00	43
402 North Harper	3360	-0-	2.00	-0-	-0-	-0-	5.00	94
Totals	16,115	22,296	128.00	48	2	61	44.00	1,368

1/ These improvements are tentative needs and may change after individual livestock operators are consulted and allotment management plans developed. Also, in nonintensive areas range improvements may be added periodically. Improvements on these nonintensive areas would in most instances be funded by the operator. Costs shown here are based on 1980 values.

Bureau of Land Management
Library
Bldg. 50, Denver Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225

